

Pre

#11

<i>Notice of Allowability</i>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/642,143	DAY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Bradley Edelman	2153	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Interview with Applicant on 11/13/2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-55.
3. The drawings filed on 18 August 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>0</u> .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
<input type="checkbox"/> Other |
|--|--|



Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

21005 7590 12/12/2003

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.
530 VIRGINIA ROAD
P.O. BOX 9133
CONCORD, MA 01742-9133

EXAMINER

EDELMAN, BRADLEY E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2153

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/642,143	08/18/2000	Mark Day	2762.2008-000	7239

TITLE OF INVENTION: REMOTE IDENTIFICATION OF CLIENT AND DNS PROXY IP ADDRESSES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$0	\$1330	03/12/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail**

**Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
(703) 746-4000**

or Fax

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

21005 7590 12/12/2003

**HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.
530 VIRGINIA ROAD
P.O. BOX 9133
CONCORD, MA 01742-9133**

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/642,143	08/18/2000	Mark Day	2762.2008-000	7239

TITLE OF INVENTION: REMOTE IDENTIFICATION OF CLIENT AND DNS PROXY IP ADDRESSES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$0	\$1330	03/12/2004
EXAMINER	ART UNIT		CLASS-SUBCLASS		
EDELMAN, BRADLEY E	2153		709-223000		

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent); individual corporation or other private group entity government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- Issue Fee
 Publication Fee
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

Director for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMIT THIS FORM WITH FEE(S)



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/642,143	08/18/2000	Mark Day	2762.2008-000	7239
21005	7590	12/12/2003	EXAMINER	
HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C. 530 VIRGINIA ROAD P.O. BOX 9133 CONCORD, MA 01742-9133			EDELMAN, BRADLEY E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2153	11

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 360 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 360 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/642,143	08/18/2000	Mark Day	2762.2008-000	7239
21005	7590	12/12/2003	EXAMINER	
HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C. 530 VIRGINIA ROAD P.O. BOX 9133 CONCORD, MA 01742-9133			EDELMAN, BRADLEY E	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2153

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003

Notice of Fee Increase on October 1, 2003

If a reply to a "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" is filed in the Office on or after October 1, 2003, then the amount due will be higher than that set forth in the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" since there will be an increase in fees effective on October 1, 2003. See Revision of Patent Fees for Fiscal Year 2004; Final Rule, 68 Fed. Reg. 41532, 41533, 41534 (July 14, 2003).

The current fee schedule is accessible from (<http://www.uspto.gov/main/howtofees.htm>).

If the fee paid is the amount shown on the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" but not the correct amount in view of the fee increase, a "Notice of Pay Balance of Issue Fee" will be mailed to applicant. In order to avoid processing delays associated with mailing of a "Notice of Pay Balance of Issue Fee," if the response to the Notice of Allowance is to be filed on or after October 1, 2003 (or mailed with a certificate of mailing on or after October 1, 2003), the issue fee paid should be the fee that is required at the time the fee is paid. If the issue fee was previously paid, and the response to the "Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due" includes a request to apply a previously-paid issue fee to the issue fee now due, then the difference between the issue fee amount at the time the response is filed and the previously-paid issue fee should be paid. See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 1308.01 (Eighth Edition, August 2001).

Effective October 1, 2003, 37 CFR 1.18 is amended by revising paragraphs (a) through (c) to read as set forth below.

Section 1.18 Patent post allowance (including issue) fees.

(a) Issue fee for issuing each original or reissue patent, except a design or plant patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))..... \$665.00
By other than a small entity..... \$1,330.00

(b) Issue fee for issuing a design patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))..... \$240.00
By other than a small entity..... \$480.00

(c) Issue fee for issuing a plant patent:

By a small entity (Sec. 1.27(a))..... \$320.00
By other than a small entity..... \$640.00

Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Solomon on November 13, 2003, and was suggested by Mr. Solomon according to a fax received on November 19, 2003, and a follow-up phone call on November 21, 2003.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

- ✓ On p. 1, line 5, replace the link http://www.foo.com; with --"http://www.foo.com;"--.
- ✓ On p. 1, line 9, replace the link www.foo.com, with --"www.foo.com."--.
- ✓ On p. 1, line 14, replace the link http://www.foo.com/1.gif, with
--"http://www.foo.com/1.gif,"--.
- ✓ On p. 2, line 14, replace the link www.foo.com, with --"www.foo.com,"--.
- ✓ On p. 6, line 24, replace the link pseudo-random.foo.com with
--"pseudo-random.foo.com"--.
- ✓ On p. 6, lines 24-25, replace the link pseudo-random.pseudo-random.foo.com with
--"pseudo-random.pseudo-random.foo.com"--.
- ✓ On p. 11, line 7, replace the link http://subserver/cgi-bin/DNS-cgi with

Art Unit: 2153

- “<http://subserver/cgi-bin/DNS-cgi>”--.
- ✓ On p. 11, line 17, replace the link <http://client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com/1.gif> with
--“<http://client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com/1.gif>”--.
- ✓ On p. 11, lines 18-19, replace the link client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com with
--“client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com”--.
- ✓ On p. 11, line 20, replace the link client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com with
--“client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com”--.
- ✓ On p. 11, lines 24-25, replace the link <http://client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com> with
--“<http://client-IP.uniqueID.dns.foo.com>”--.
- ✓ On p. 11, line 25, replace the link <http://208.73.65.70.17564592.DNS.foo.com> with
--“<http://208.73.65.70.17564592.DNS.foo.com>”--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1: Replace claim 1 with the following:

--A method for identifying an address of a network element that a particular client uses to obtain IP addresses, comprising:

causing the client to send a test message destined for a test URL to a network element, the test URL including a host name at least in part distinguishable from host names in non-test URLs according to a predetermined uniqueness and not known to the client or network element but for which a test server is known to be authoritative, the network element responsively accessing the test server; and

Art Unit: 2153

at the test server, recognizing the predetermined uniqueness in the host name of the test URL received in a request from the network element to resolve the host name in the test URL to an IP address, and responsively (i) distinguishing the request from requests including non-test URLs, (ii) identifying the address of the network element used by the client to obtain the IP address, and (iii) registering the address of the network element making the request.--

Claim 11: Replace claim 11 with the following:

--A system for identifying an address of a network element that a particular client uses to obtain IP addresses, comprising:

a client caused to send a message destined for a test URL to a network element, the test URL including a host name at least in part distinguishable from host names in non-test URLs according to a predetermined uniqueness and not known to the client or network element, the network element responsively accessing an authoritative server; and

a server that (i) is the authoritative server for the host name in the test URL, (ii) recognizes the predetermined uniqueness in the host name of the test URL in a request from the network element to resolve the host name of the test URL to a test IP address, and (iii) responsively (a) distinguishes the request from requests including non-test URLs, (b) identifies the address of the network element making the request, and (c) registers the address of the network element making the request.--

Art Unit: 2153

Claim 21: Replace claim 21 with the following:

--An apparatus for identifying an address of a network element that a particular client uses to obtain IP addresses, comprising:

an interface coupled to a network to receive client messages, and
a processor coupled to the interface, the processor executing a set of computer program instructions, the computer program instructions:

receiving a request from a network element in response to the network element receiving a test message destined for a test URL from a client, the test URL including a host name at least in part distinguishable from host names in non-test URLs according to a predetermined uniqueness and not known to the client or network element but for which the apparatus is known to be authoritative; and

recognizing the predetermined uniqueness in the host name of the test URL in the request from the network element to resolve the host name to an IP address and responsively (i) distinguishing the request from requests including non-test URLs, (ii) identifying the address of the network element used by the client to obtain the IP address, and (iii) registering the network element making the request--

Claim 31: Replace claim 31 with the following:

--In a server, a method for identifying an address of a network element that a particular client uses to obtain IP addresses, comprising:

Art Unit: 2153

receiving a request from a network element in response to the network element receiving a test message destined for a test URL from a client, the test URL including a host name at least in part distinguishable from host names in non-test URLs according to a predetermined uniqueness and not known to the client or network element but for which the server is known to be authoritative; and

recognizing the predetermined uniqueness in the host name in the test URL received in a request from the network element to resolve the host name to an IP address and responsively (i) distinguishing the request from requests including non-test URLs, (ii) identifying the address of the network element used by the client to obtain the IP address, and (iii) registering the address of the network element making the request.

Claim 41: Replace claim 41 with the following:

A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium for storing data; and

a set of computer program instructions embodied on the computer useable medium, including instructions to:

receive a request from a network element in response to the network element receiving a test message destined for a test URL from a client, the test URL including a host name at least in part distinguishable from host names in non-test URLs according to a predetermined uniqueness and not known to the client or network element but for

which a server executing the computer program instructions is known to be authoritative; and

recognize the predetermined uniqueness in the host name in the test URL received in the request from the network element to resolve the host name to an IP address and responsively (i) distinguishing the request from requests including non-test URLs, (ii) identifying the address of the network element used by the client to obtain the IP address, and (iii) registering the address of the network element making the request.-

Claim 45:

Replace the phrase "Claim 45" on line 1 with the phrase --Claim 44--.

Claim 53: Replace claim 53 with the following:

--A communication signal on a carrier wave, the communication signal for identifying an address of a network element that a particular client uses to obtain IP addresses, and the communication signal adapted to being passed between the client and the network element, the signal including a test URL comprising a host name, at least in part distinguishable from host names in non-test URLs according to a predetermined uniqueness and not known to the client or network element but for which a test server is known to be authoritative, the signal causing the network element to resolve the host name in the test URL by accessing the test server that (a) recognizes the predetermined uniqueness in the host name of the test URL received in a request

89

from the network element to resolve the host name in the test URL to an IP address,
and (b) responsively (i) distinguishes the request from requests including non-test
URLs, (ii) identifies the address of the network element used by the client to obtain the
IP address, and (iii) registers the address of the network element making the request.--

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-55, as amended above, are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1, 11, 21, 31, 41, and 53, the prior art of record fails to disclose or render obvious all of the limitations of the claims. In particular, a key distinction between the claimed invention and prior art systems (such as DNS systems) is that the claimed invention first recognizes a uniqueness of a test URL, and then responds by first distinguishing the test URL from non-test URLs (i.e. it determines from the uniqueness that the test URL is not a typical request for information, but is used for testing purposes only), and then registering the address of the network element making the request to the test server at the test server.

A regular DNS system distinguishes unique URLs from each other, and can log addresses of network elements (see "Background of the Invention" in Applicant's specification), but does not do so as a result of recognizing a specific uniqueness in the URL that signifies that it is a test URL (i.e. a URL for testing the DNS system) rather than a non-test URL (i.e. a URL for actually accessing a resource specified by the URL).

Regarding claims 51 and 52, the prior art of record fails to disclose or render obvious all of the limitations of the claims. In particular, the prior art does not disclose the steps of receiving a message from a client, parsing the message for an IP address of the client, encoding the IP address into a host name for a test URL wherein the URL has an authoritative test server, and then using the URL, as claimed, to make a request to the test server to resolve the test URL to a test IP address

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bradley Edelman whose telephone number is (703) 306-3041. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

Application/Control Number: 09/642,143
Art Unit: 2153

Page 10

For all correspondences: (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

BE
November 24, 2003



Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner